United Nations A/61/984–S/2007/384

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
27 June 2007

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-first session
Agenda items 11, 17, 27, 44, 50, 53, 67, 85, 98, 99, 100 and 157

Prevention of armed conflict

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Culture of peace

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Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

Security Council
Sixty-second year

Letter dated 25 June 2007 from the Permanent Representatives of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the following GUAM (Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Moldova) documents: the Baku Declaration (see annex I), the GUAM Summit communiqué (see annex II), the Communiqué of the GUAM-Poland meeting (see annex III), the GUAM-United States joint statement (see annex IV)

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and the joint press statement of the GUAM-Japan meeting (see annex V) adopted at the Summit of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM held in Baku on 18 and 19 June 2007.

We should be grateful if the present letter and its annexes could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 11, 17, 27, 44, 50, 53, 67, 85, 98, 99, 100 and 157, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Agshin **Mehdiyev**
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan

(*Signed*) Irakli **Alasania**
Permanent Representative of Georgia

(*Signed*) Alexei **Tulbure**
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova

(*Signed*) Yuriy **Sergeyev**
Permanent Representative of Ukraine

Annex I to the letter dated 25 June 2007 from the Permanent Representatives of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Baku Declaration
"GUAM: Bringing Continents Together"

Second meeting of the Council of Heads of State
Baku, 19 June 2007

The Council of Heads of State of the GUAM Organization for Democracy and Economic Development,

Guided by the Charter of the GUAM Organization for Democracy and Economic Development (hereinafter referred to as GUAM) and also the principles and norms of international law,

Mindful of the fact that, 10 years ago, the GUAM States united in the determination jointly to confront common dangers and threats to peace, security and stability,

Recognizing with satisfaction that, during these years, GUAM has successfully developed a vision of its strategic goals and expanded the scope of cooperation to the horizons of economic, parliamentary, cultural and humanitarian interaction, and has been transformed into a full-fledged international regional organization,

Noting that a reliable foundation of cooperation based on a commonality of interests and the principles of equality, mutual respect and support has ensured the entry of GUAM into international life and created the conditions for developing its transregional role as an international structure that brings continents together,

Welcoming the broad international participation at the highest level at the Baku Summit and *considering* it evidence of the growing support for GUAM and of the promising prospects for developing its cooperation with country partners and other international organizations,

Stressing the fact that cooperation is being carried out in the interests of ensuring the democratic stability and dynamic development of the GUAM States in all spheres and plays an exclusively positive role in the process of their global and regional integration,

Highly appraising the spiritual and cultural heritage of the peoples of the GUAM countries and *expressing* a readiness to assist in promoting the value of the diversity of cultures and ethnic communities and strengthening the spirit of tolerance,

Expressing profound concern in connection with the ongoing crises and growing security threats emanating from international terrorism, aggressive separatism and extremism and other dangerous crimes linked to them, and, in this connection, *drawing the attention* of the international community to the complexity, gravity and the large scale of these problems encountered by the GUAM States,

1. Confirms its determination to expand cooperation in order to promote democratic values, the rule of law, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, achieve stable socio-economic development, and ensure security and stability in the GUAM region;

2. Declares its unswerving aspiration to strengthen the regional significance and position of GUAM by consolidating common interests and increasing sectoral cooperation. It considers it necessary to make full use of the socio-economic, transport, energy, scientific and technical, humanitarian, legislative and law-enforcement potential of the member States in order to create a common space for integration and security in the GUAM region. In this regard, the strategy for developing sectoral cooperation is adopted;

3. Welcomes the growing interest of other States and international organizations in establishing partnerships and expanding mutually advantageous cooperation with GUAM, and instructs that active steps be taken to develop the common European, trans-Atlantic, Black Sea, trans-Caspian and Asian areas of focus for the activities of GUAM;

4. Underscores the key geographic location and strategic importance of the GUAM member States, whose territories constitute a natural corridor between Europe and Asia. In order to promote the all-round development of this corridor, it instructs that efforts be stepped up to make use of the transit potential of GUAM and to attract international support and investments. It notes, in this context, the importance of harmonizing legislation, eliminating barriers to economic and trade relations, developing infrastructure, expanding cooperation to ensure the effectiveness and security of transport corridors, and jointly combating terrorism, organized crime, the illegal spread of narcotic drugs and other dangerous types of crime;

5. Expresses the desire to participate actively in strengthening global energy security and supporting further efforts to detect new sources of hydrocarbon resources and a readiness to make available the territories of the member States for transporting such resources to world markets, and underscores the need for further cooperation in investigating and developing alternative and renewable types of energy;

6. Declares the importance of developing an intercommunal and interconfessional dialogue and protecting the rights of persons belonging to national minorities within the internationally recognized borders of States in order to settle conflicts, maintain international security, strengthen mutual understanding and create favourable conditions for the harmonious development of global and regional integration, and instructs that corresponding international initiatives on the part of GUAM be developed;

7. Affirms the need to continue joint active steps to settle the protracted conflicts in the GUAM region on the basis of observing the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and the inviolability of the internationally recognized borders of States in accordance with the provisions of the joint declaration of the GUAM heads of State on the issue of conflict settlement, and also the importance of mobilizing the support of the international community in order to resolve these conflicts. It expresses its belief in the absolute need for and the justness and lasting effectiveness of resolving conflicts through the reintegration of

the territories affected by them into the political, legal and socio-economic system of the State, their complete rehabilitation, the return of displaced populations to their places of permanent residence, the reconstruction of transport routes and ensuring peaceful coexistence and cooperation among the communities in these territories;

8. Notes with satisfaction the transformation of GUAM into an international regional organization, including the establishment of its secretariat, and underscores in particular the fact that the Baku Summit is taking place on the tenth anniversary of GUAM. In this connection, it instructs the party holding the chairmanship, in cooperation with the secretariat, to carry out international celebratory events with the participation of the member States.

Annex II to the letter dated 25 June 2007 from the Permanent Representatives of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Baku GUAM Summit communiqué

Second meeting of the Council of Heads of State
Baku, 19 June 2007

The second summit of the GUAM (Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova) Organization for Democracy and Economic Development, entitled "GUAM: Bringing Continents Together", was held in Baku, Azerbaijan on 18 and 19 June 2007. The regular meetings of the Council of Heads of State and the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs, meetings between GUAM and the United States of America, Japan and Poland, respectively, the meeting of the Council of National Coordinators, joint meetings of the heads of sectoral ministries and agencies and other events took place at the summit.

The Council of Heads of State expanded the format of its meeting between the Presidents of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Ukraine and the Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova to include the following special guests: the Presidents of Lithuania, Poland and Romania, the Vice-President of Bulgaria, the Deputy Speaker of Estonia, the Minister of the Economy of Latvia, high-level representatives of the United States of America, Japan, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and heads of diplomatic missions accredited to Azerbaijan.

The Council expressed its gratitude to Ukrainian President Victor Yushchenko for successfully presiding over GUAM during the period between the Kyiv and Baku summits. Chairmanship of the Organization was transferred to the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The Council noted that the Baku summit was taking place on the tenth anniversary of the meeting of the four heads of State in Strasbourg on 10 October 1997, which laid the basis for GUAM cooperation and integration.

The Council emphasized the steady rise by GUAM in influence and authority, which attested to the international community's support for GUAM and the fact that the Organization was developing in the right direction.

The Council signed the Baku Declaration, entitled "GUAM: Bringing Continents Together", at the summit of the GUAM Organization for Democracy and Economic Development, where it reaffirmed the shared interests and approaches of the member States and their desire to establish a common space for integration and security in the GUAM region.

There were discussions at the summit of pressing matters concerning the development of the Organization and implementation of the decisions of the 2006 Kyiv summit, and the start of activities of the GUAM secretariat was noted. The Council approved the GUAM chairmanship programme of the Republic of Azerbaijan, plans for cooperation with international organizations and the events

calendar. The 2007 GUAM budget was approved, draft budgets for 2008 to 2010 were drawn up and other decisions required for the operations of the Organization were adopted.

With respect to cooperation between member States, primary importance was attached to the use of the transit capacity and role of GUAM as a link between Europe and Asia. It was noted that GUAM has contributed significantly to bringing the continents closer, finding common ground and approaches for addressing urgent problems, developing dialogue among civilizations and cultures and eliminating stereotypes which thwart international understanding and cooperation. In this context, the importance of expanding Black Sea and trans-Caspian partnership and cooperation was emphasized.

The agreement on international multimodal transport of goods signed within the framework of the summit will promote the establishment of an effective and flexible transportation and conveyance system, the development of transportation infrastructures, investment in these areas and, in general, lasting bridge-building between Europe and Asia.

The Council reaffirmed the firm commitment of GUAM member States to the maintenance of democratic values and the rule of law, the establishment of civil society, respect for human rights and ensuring sustainable development as well as the efforts of the Organization to strengthen international and regional security and stability.

The participants in the summit gave particular attention to issues involving threats and challenges to security, including international terrorism, aggressive separatism and extremism and transnational organized crime. The heads of State emphasized that these threats, including unresolved conflicts and the illegal presence of foreign troops and forces in the territory of GUAM States, continue to adversely affect comprehensive democratic reform and economic development in the region.

The Council reaffirmed the need to continue to take effective joint steps to resolve these conflicts on the basis of observing the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and the inviolability of internationally recognized State borders and in accordance with the provisions of the joint declaration of the GUAM heads of State on the issue of conflict settlement as well as on the importance of mobilizing the support of the international community for the position of GUAM.

In this respect, the Council noted the concerted efforts of member States to advance the draft resolution on agenda item 27 of the sixty-first session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled "Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development", and expressed its gratitude to the States which supported this GUAM initiative.

The Council expressed its belief in the absolute need for and the justness and lasting effectiveness of resolving conflicts through the reintegration of the affected territories into the political, legal, social and economic system of the State, their full rehabilitation, the return of the displaced populations to their places of permanent residence, the reconstruction of transport routes and ensuring peaceful coexistence and cooperation among the communities in these territories.

The Council welcomed the growing cooperation between representatives of GUAM countries and other States and international organizations, including the United Nations, OSCE, the Council of Europe, the European Union, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and UNESCO.

The Council noted the holding of the meeting of the sectoral working groups on economic issues at the level of heads of agencies in conjunction with the regular meeting of the GUAM Business Council within the framework of the summit. There were discussions of the operations in the GUAM Free Trade Area, and the prospects for achieving a new level of cooperation in this area were explored. The Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs was instructed to study the possibility of establishing a GUAM common market.

The Council commended the high level of cooperation in the area of combating terrorism, organized crime, the spread of drugs and other dangerous types of crime. The Council welcomed the holding of the joint meeting of sectoral working groups on cooperation in the area of law enforcement and security at the level of the heads of the relevant agencies.

The Council explored the prospects for the development of humanitarian cooperation, including in the area of culture, education, health care, youth exchange, tourism and sport. In this connection, the Council welcomed the holding of the joint meeting of the sectoral working groups on humanitarian cooperation within the framework of the summit and took into consideration the signing of the protocol on cooperation in the field of culture for 2007-2010.

After discussing the development of cooperation in the economic, humanitarian, law enforcement and security areas, the Council adopted a strategy for developing GUAM sectoral cooperation, which is designed to give impetus to effective interaction among GUAM States in those areas.

Taking note of the contribution by GUAM to the maintenance of regional and international security and stability, the Council welcomed the conclusion of a memorandum on cooperation and mutual assistance on nuclear and radiation safety within the framework of the summit.

The Council noted with satisfaction the successful implementation of the trade and transport facilitation project and the project to set up the GUAM virtual centre for combating terrorism and the inter-State information analysis system and expressed gratitude to the United States Government for the ongoing effective assistance in implementing these and other cooperation programmes.

The Council welcomed the adoption of the GUAM-United States joint statement, which sets forth the basic areas of and further prospects for partnership.

The first meeting between GUAM and Japan took place at the summit and resulted in the adoption of a statement establishing the basis for actively developing mutually beneficial contacts, especially in the area of transport and communications, energy and the environment.

The GUAM Council of Heads of State met with the President of Poland, who expressed interest in developing cooperation with GUAM. The parties explored the prospects for cooperation, especially in the area of transport, energy and tourism, and gave particular attention to the development of the GUAM transit corridor linking Europe and Asia.

Emphasis was placed on the importance of developing mutually beneficial contacts between GUAM, the European Union and regional organizations and participating in processes and initiatives.

The Council noted the high level of cooperation within the framework of the GUAM Parliamentary Assembly and called on it to actively assist in strengthening the Organization's institutions.

The Council welcomed the holding of the academic conference on the topic "GUAM in the region and the world" on 19 June 2007 in Baku and emphasized the need for regularly conducting similar events with the participation of representatives of the GUAM countries and foreign experts for the purpose of raising awareness about the activities of the Organization, which is of particular importance for the tenth anniversary of GUAM.

Participants in the summit expressed gratitude to the Azerbaijan party for the effective organization of the Baku summit and wished it success in its chairmanship.

The Council decided to conduct its next regular meeting in Tbilisi, Georgia, in June 2008.

Annex III to the letter dated 25 June 2007 from the Permanent Representatives of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]

Communiqué of GUAM-Poland meeting

Second meeting of the Council of Heads of State
Baku, 19 June 2007

On 18 June 2007 in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, in the framework of the Second Summit of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM, the Council of the Heads of State held a meeting with H.E. Lech Aleksander Kaczynski, the President of the Republic of Poland.

Poland expressed its interest in promoting cooperation with GUAM, which has become a durable component of the European political architecture. GUAM welcomed this intention.

Poland resolutely supports GUAM's activity, perceiving it as an effective instrument of regional cooperation that enhances the realization of major multilateral projects and European aspirations declared by the Member States of the Organization. Poland fully endorses the guiding principles of GUAM as elaborated in its statutory documents: dedication to democratic values and the rule of law, mutually advantageous economic cooperation and striving for peaceful resolution of the protracted conflicts in the Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia and the Republic of Moldova. Poland affirms its attachment to the principle of preserving the territorial integrity of these states within their internationally recognized borders in the process of final settlement of the conflicts.

The Participants, having considered the prospects of the GUAM-Poland cooperation, emphasized a special role of GUAM transit corridor bridging Asia and Europe, and outlined energy, transport, tourism and other spheres of their mutual interest. The Parties have agreed to cooperate in the field of training of diplomatic personnel. Poland has also pledged its backing for the intensification of cooperation between the GUAM Member States and the EU.

Both sides recognized benefits of launching sector cooperation as a long-term undertaking accelerating economic growth, boosting trade and consolidating good relations between GUAM and Poland.

Annex IV to the letter dated 25 June 2007 from the Permanent Representatives of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]

GUAM-United States joint statement

Third meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs
Baku, 18 June 2007

On 18 June 2007 in Baku, Azerbaijan, a regular GUAM-USA meeting was held within the framework of the second Summit of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM.

The United States reiterated its long-standing support to and interest in GUAM's further development as regional organization and its active contribution into international affairs. The United States reaffirmed its commitment to a peaceful settlement of the unresolved conflicts in the region. The United States reaffirmed its support for the territorial integrity of the GUAM States within their internationally recognized borders.

The US Delegation commended the GUAM efforts aimed at further developing a free trade area, strengthening effective interagency cooperation and providing assistance to the Member States in nuclear and radiological safety and implementing multimodal cargo transportation. The US Delegation also commended GUAM on efforts to implement European standards and practices within the GUAM Member States, and urged that these efforts continue.

The GUAM Member States reiterated their commitment to strengthen their cooperation in consolidating democracy, increasing security and deepening economic, scientific, humanitarian and cultural relations in the GUAM region.

The GUAM Ministers expressed their gratitude to the Government of the United States for providing technical and financial assistance to their Organization. The US side informed of its willingness to offer financial support at the initial phase of activity of newly established GUAM Secretariat.

The participants addressed the current state and prospects of the GUAM-US partnership. They noted with appreciation the progress achieved in advancing the GUAM-US Framework Program, namely the GUAM Virtual Center and Interstate Informational – Management System and Trade and Transport Facilitation projects and highlighted the importance of implementation of these projects. At the same time, the GUAM members underlined the efficiency of the GUAM Euro-Atlantic Advisory Team, sponsored by the United States that has proved to be

instrumental in assisting implementation of the GUAM-US Framework Program, and stressed the importance of its further operation. The Parties recognized the importance of the Virtual Law Enforcement Center (VLEC) project, and committed to realizing its potential and achieving its full utilization.

The parties reaffirmed their willingness to develop joint efforts with a view to strengthen cooperation in combating international terrorism, expanding Europe-Asia Trans-Caspian links, promoting energy security through diversification of energy supplies, developing infrastructure for natural gas and oil transportation and ensuring stable economic growth and irreversible character of democratic reforms.

The GUAM Member States and US expressed satisfaction with initiation of the dialogue with Japan that will bring mutually beneficial results.

The US welcomed the interest of GUAM Member States in further deepening cooperation with the European Union in fields of mutual interest and underlined importance of the EU support to GUAM projects.

The participants pledged to reinforce political dialogue and practical cooperation between GUAM and US. To this end, it was agreed to hold in the fall of 2007 high level expert discussions of the GUAM National Coordinators with the US State Department officials. In addition, the participants agreed to hold a GUAM-US Conference in Washington D.C. with senior GUAM and US government officials, which will review the current status of GUAM`s affairs and priority and prospects of further GUAM-US cooperation.

The sides agreed to have a next GUAM-US meeting during the general debates of the 62nd session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York.

Annex V to the letter dated 25 June 2007 from the Permanent Representatives of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English]

Joint press statement
GUAM-Japan meeting

Third meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs
Baku, 18 June 2007

1. On 18 June 2007 in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, the first Meeting between the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM and Japan took place at the level of the GUAM Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Mr. Mitoji Yabunaka, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan. The meeting was held in the framework of the Second Summit of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM in Baky on 18-19 June 2007.

2. The participants welcomed the first meeting between GUAM and Japan, which share the fundamental values such as democracy, freedom, human rights, the rule of law, including norms and principles of international law, and market economy. The participants expressed their desire to further enhance dialogue between GUAM and Japan and welcomed the "Arc of Freedom and Prosperity", the new pillar in Japanese diplomacy.

3. During the meeting, both sides touched upon the main topics of GUAM – Japan political dialogue, including initiatives in strengthening democracy, increasing security and stability, peaceful resolution of conflicts on the basis of the UN Security Council resolutions, developing civil society, as well as deepening mutual support within major international organizations.

4. The participants discussed cooperation in the sphere of economy. GUAM expressed its deep interest in investments of the Japanese side in priority areas of cooperation, including energy, transport, in particular corridor Europe – Asia through GUAM, and ecology. GUAM and Japan confirmed their intention to work towards business promotion and further improvement of the investment environments.

5. Taking note of the mutual interest in the spheres of energy and ecology, and the well-developed energy saving technology of Japan, the Japanese side proposed to organize a workshop in Tokyo on energy saving technology for officials and researchers of GUAM countries in 2007. GUAM countries expressed their appreciation and cooperation for the workshop.

6. GUAM and Japan also addressed the prospects of their cooperation in various humanitarian areas.

7. The participants highly appreciated the hospitality of the Azerbaijan authorities and decided to coordinate the date and venue of the next GUAM – Japan meeting at working levels.